

## 10.10: Rationalizing Binomial Denominators

★ Conjugates: a conjugate is a binomial that differs only by the connecting sign

Ex: the conjugate of  $a+b$  is  $a-b$   
" " " "  $2-3\sqrt{5}$  is  $2+3\sqrt{5}$

★ When you ( $\times$ ) an irrational binomial by its conjugate you result in a rational product.

Process: Rationalizing Binomial Denom.

1) (x) num. and denom. by the conjugate of the denom.

- num: distribute or FOIL
- denom: FOIL

2) Simplify resulting fraction

Ex: rationalize:  $\frac{5}{4 + \sqrt{6}}$

Ex: rationalize and simplify:  $\frac{1 + \sqrt{5}}{3 - \sqrt{5}}$

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Tools Comment

## EXERCISES WITH OPEN-RESPONSE PROBLEMS

In 1–45, rationalize the denominator of each fraction. If possible, simplify the result.

1. $\frac{1}{\sqrt{7}}$	2. $\frac{9}{\sqrt{2}}$	3. $\frac{8}{\sqrt{5}}$	4. $\frac{15}{\sqrt{10}}$	5. $\frac{3}{\sqrt{6}}$
6. $\frac{6}{\sqrt{3}}$	7. $\frac{4}{\sqrt{18}}$	8. $\frac{6}{\sqrt{8}}$	9. $\frac{15}{\sqrt{50}}$	10. $\frac{6}{\sqrt{27}}$
11. $\frac{4}{\sqrt{48}}$	12. $\frac{3}{2\sqrt{2}}$	13. $\frac{3}{2\sqrt{3}}$	14. $\frac{9}{4\sqrt{6}}$	15. $\frac{10}{3\sqrt{20}}$
16. $\frac{5\sqrt{2}}{\sqrt{5}}$	17. $\frac{\sqrt{6}}{4\sqrt{2}}$	18. $\frac{3\sqrt{8}}{4\sqrt{18}}$	19. $\frac{2}{\sqrt[3]{16}}$	20. $\frac{4\sqrt[3]{3}}{3\sqrt[3]{2}}$
21. $\frac{5}{2 - \sqrt{3}}$	22. $\frac{4}{3 + \sqrt{2}}$	23. $\frac{1}{4 + \sqrt{5}}$	24. $\frac{5}{4 + \sqrt{6}}$	25. $\frac{6}{4 - \sqrt{10}}$
26. $\frac{9}{5 - \sqrt{13}}$	27. $\frac{6}{\sqrt{7} + 2}$	28. $\frac{4}{\sqrt{15} - 3}$	29. $\frac{4}{\sqrt{5} - 3}$	30. $\frac{11}{\sqrt{3} - 5}$
31. $\frac{12}{\sqrt{17} + 5}$	32. $\frac{\sqrt{7}}{3 - \sqrt{7}}$	33. $\frac{\sqrt{3}}{\sqrt{3} + 1}$	34. $\frac{2\sqrt{5}}{\sqrt{5} - 1}$	35. $\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2 - \sqrt{2}}$
36. $\frac{2 + \sqrt{3}}{4 - \sqrt{3}}$	37. $\frac{6 - \sqrt{7}}{5 - \sqrt{7}}$	38. $\frac{1 + \sqrt{11}}{4 - \sqrt{11}}$	39. $\frac{1 + \sqrt{5}}{3 - \sqrt{5}}$	40. $\frac{1 + \sqrt{3}}{3 - \sqrt{3}}$
41. $\frac{1 + \sqrt{5}}{5 + \sqrt{5}}$	42. $\frac{\sqrt{10} - 3}{\sqrt{10} - 2}$	43. $\frac{\sqrt{7} + \sqrt{3}}{\sqrt{7} - \sqrt{3}}$	44. $\frac{5\sqrt{2} + 1}{2\sqrt{2} - 1}$	45. $\frac{\sqrt{12} - 2}{\sqrt{3} - 1}$

*Pg 421:  
3-60 ÷ 3*

In 46–53, in each case: **a.** Use a calculator to find an approximate value of the given fraction to the nearest *ten-thousandth*. **b.** Write the given fraction as an equivalent fraction with a rational denominator.

**c.** Use a calculator to find the value of the fraction in part **b** to the nearest *ten-thousandth*.

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